

Greenbrier Independent.

THURSDAY, JULY 27TH, 1893.

LOCAL MATTERS.

RAILROAD SCHEDULE.—Trains arrive at Ronceverte as follows, Washington time: Eastbound—No. 4, at 5.47, a. m.; No. 14, at 4.03 p. m.; No. 2, at 8.27 p. m.; and No. 6, at 10.30 a. m. Westbound—No. 3, at 8.45 a. m.; No. 13, at 11.32 a. m.; No. 1, at 10.35 p. m.; and No. 5, at 5.03 p. m. Nos. 5 and 6 do not run on Sunday.

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Fatal Accident to Benj. Herold, Esq.

From the Parkersburg *Sentinel* of the
20th inst. we clip the following:

Last evening on the arrival here of No.
4 on the B. & O. among the passengers
that alighted from the train was an old
man, gray headed and feeble, and poorly
clad. Several parties noticed him, as he
acted rather strangely. Just before the
train started he walked upon the front
platform of the sleeper, crossed over
and got off on the opposite side. He
was told to get aboard, as the train was
about to start, but paid no heed and
walked up along the train, and as it
pulled out past him he made no effort
to get on.

When it had pulled out he asked some
one whether that was his train, and
they told him it was. Without making
any further inquiries he started out
through the B. & O. yards on a slow
walk. He was seen and spoken to by
several parties in the yards, but gave
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He was seen and spoken to by several parties in the yards, but gave unintelligible answers. Conductor Bailey was one of these persons, and warned him to be careful and get off the tracks. He continued on out through the yards, however, and had reached the east end of the Red bridge, just east of the city. The West bound freight was pulling in, and as it rounded the curve engineer Scott Philips saw the old man. He blew the whistle and reversed his engine and made every attempt to stop the train. The old man paid no heed, whatever to the warning whistle and continued on the track until he was struck by the engine and thrown down over the embankment, where he alighted on a pile of rock. The train was stopped and the injured man was placed aboard the train and taken to S. Y., in the yards, and Drs. M. Campbell and Henry Campbell were summoned.

It was found upon examination that the man was terribly injured. The left arm was broken in two places, several ribs were broken, his nose was cleft in twain and there was an ugly cut on the forehead. No money was found on his person. Among the persons who

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GRAFTON, W. VA., Aug. 1st, '92.

WHEREAS, Benjamin Herold has this day given me a note for \$15,000.00, payable upon the performance of certain services, I hereby agree to give the said Herold from one to two years to make the said payment.

JOHN T. MCGRAW,
by John L. Heckmer.

Witness—B. M. Yeager.

Some other papers were found on him from which it was seen that the injured man was a resident of Huntersville, Pocahontas county, and that he owned considerable land in that section.

Only once did he regain consciousness, but only for a moment. He said his name was Benjamin Herold, but before he could tell where he lived he

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The injured man was fully identified as Benj. Herold, of Pocahontas county, by Mr. B. M. Hamilton. It is supposed that he was on his way to Grafton at the time of the accident.

A letter was afterwards received from John T. McGraw, in which the \$15,000 contract is explained and the residence of Herold's relatives are given. Mr. McGraw says that Herold owned large tracts of wild lands in Pocahontas county, which were forfeited to the State for non-payment of taxes, and that he was employed by Herold to begin proceedings to recover the property, and if successful the amount named in the note was agreed upon for his services.

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THE Monroe Watchman
2-year-old colt owned by Kelly, near Sweet Springs went mad recently, and dangerous to everything it, both man and beast of the symptoms of h after lingering in great three days died.

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Bishop Francis Asbury in West Virginia*

By Lawrence Sherwood

Introduction

"Whither am I going? To the New World. What to do? To gain honor? No, if I know my own heart. To get money? No. I am going to live to God, and to bring others so to do."

So Francis Asbury (1745-1816) wrote in his *Journal* on September 12, 1771 as he was starting from England to America. In the next forty-five years he not only was to be the dominant force in the shaping of American Methodism as its pioneer Bishop; he also was to become one of the greatest explorers of the American frontier.

His Journal

Asbury's part in the life of pioneer America and his observations of people and places have been in large measure hidden to recent generations. Asbury kept a daily diary or *Journal* from August 7, 1771 until December 7, 1815. Portions of this *Journal* were published during his life. The entire *Journal* was published in 1821. It was reprinted in 1852, and again reprinted about two years later. It had, thus, by 1958 been out of print for more than a hundred years, and copies had become increasingly difficult to obtain. Little wonder that present-day persons had scant knowledge of his life and importance.

Certain scholars in America knew of his *Journal* and of its meaning not only as a commentary on the beginnings of The Methodist Church, but also as a first-hand record of men and movements in the early days of the United States. Thus, when the National Historical Publications Commission of the United States Government chose sixty-six great Americans whose works should be edited and published, Asbury's name was included. The recommendation that this Commission made in 1961 was accepted by two Presidents and both Houses of Congress.

Through the recommendation and cooperation of the World Methodist Council, the *Journal* and *Letters of Francis Asbury*

* A paper presented by the writer at the annual meeting of the West Virginia Historical Society, Charleston, West Virginia, October 19, 1962.